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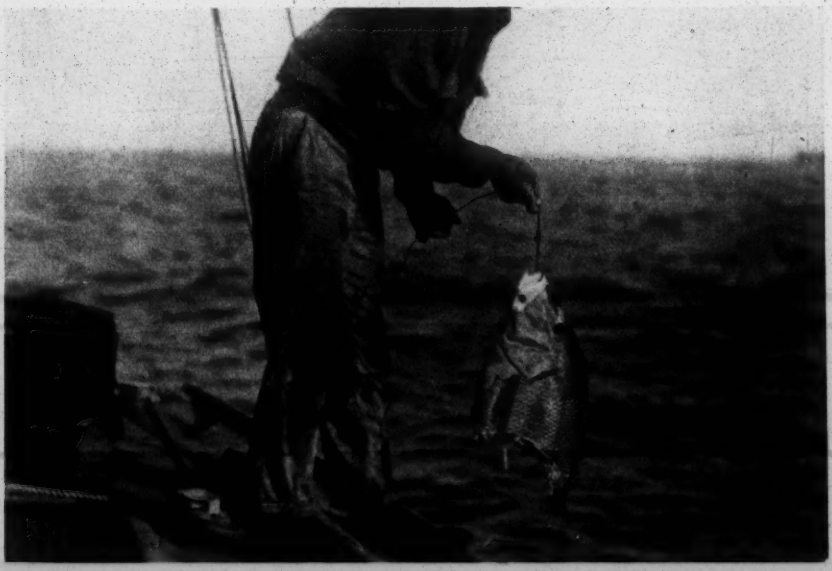

Photograph from Miami Aquarium.

A VICTIM OF THE WORLD WAR UNDERSEAS WHICH SELDOM GETS INTO THE NEWSPAPERS

A 16-pound mutton fish bitten in two by a larger fish. Landing half a fish is not a rare experience for sportsmen at Miami, Florida, for the hungry barracuda is sometimes quicker than the man with the line. The mutton fish was seized and contended for while being hauled into the boat.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

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Mosul: City of Odd Minaret and Curious Bridge

MOSUL, area in dispute between British and Turkish delegates at the Lausanne conference, is one of the cities of Mesopotamia which entertained high expectations of revived commercial importance as a result of the completion of the Bagdad Railway. It was brought suddenly into the foreground of the World War by the Russian operations in 1916.

Mosul is situated on the right bank of the Tigris, 220 miles above Bagdad, and just opposite the extensive ruins of the great Assyrian capital of Nineveh. The Great Mosque, with its odd, leaning minaret, is the chief architectural feature of this otherwise unimpressive looking city with its crumbling limestone walls enclosing cemeteries that occupy almost as much space as the habitations of the living.

Parasitic Product Chief Export

The Suez Canal long ago diverted much of Mosul's caravan commerce, but the town is still a distributing point for northern Mesopotamia. Supplanting in importance the locally manufactured woolen and cotton fabrics which received the name of "muslin" from the city, the chief article of export today is gallnuts, gathered in the adjacent mountains. This parasitic product has medicinal properties utilized in an astringent ointment, and it is also an important ingredient of certain dyes and black inks.

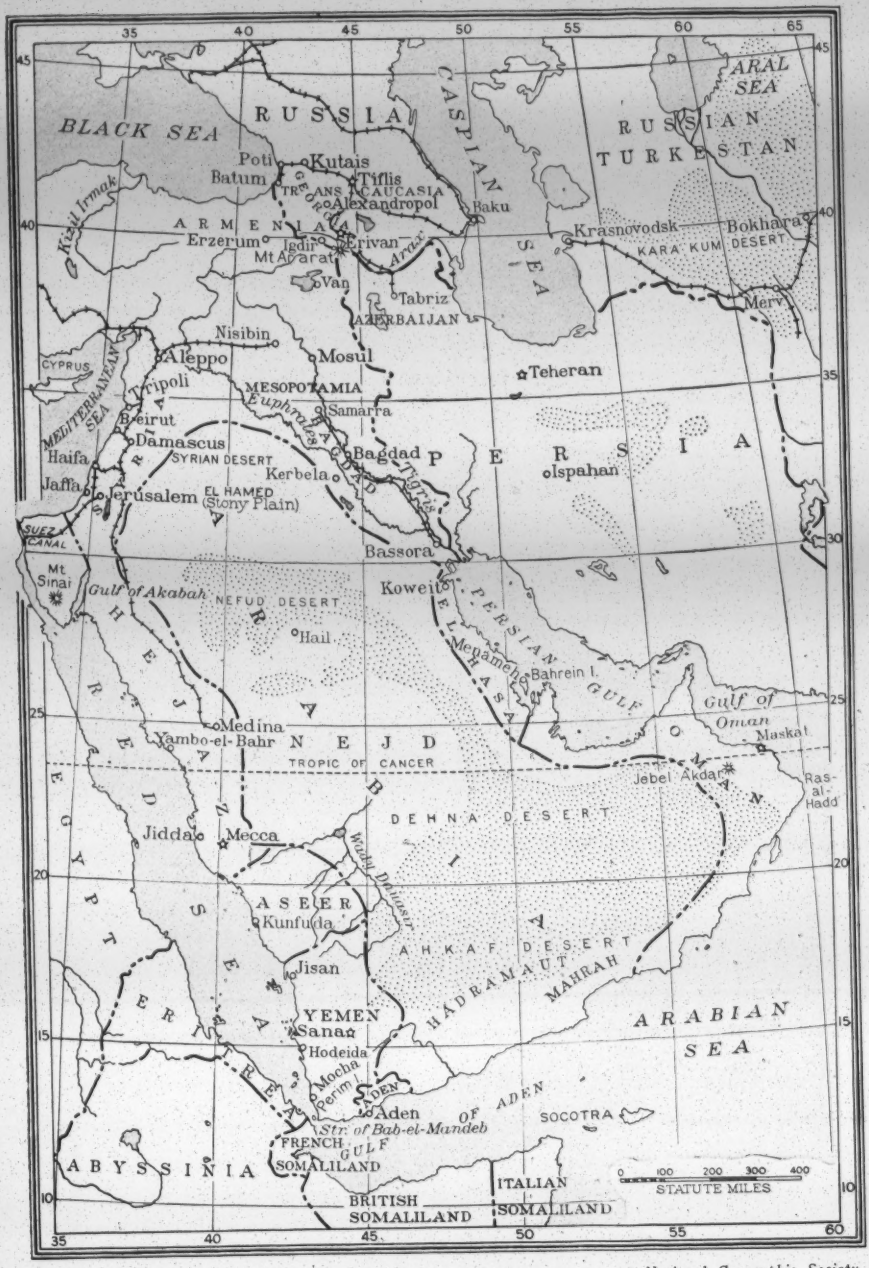
One of the physical peculiarities of Mosul is the bridge over the Tigris, connecting this one-time suburb of ancient Nineveh with the ruins of the parent city. One-sixth of the bridge is an ordinary span which joins the right bank and a small island. Beyond the island the traveler crosses the wider branch of the river by means of a pontoon or boat bridge. As the high waters of May recede the Tigris soon uncovers the silt-enriched islands around Mosul, and by mid-summer there will be a bountiful harvest of melons and other fruit, provided the natives have had time to plant their customary crops.

Point Out "Tomb of Jonah"

Among the places of interest pointed out to the traveler in this section of Mesopotamia is the tomb of Jonah, on the left bank of the river, recalling vividly to mind the history of the mighty metropolis, founded, supposedly, by Ninus and the famed Semiramis more than two thousand years before the Christian era, and to which the prophet Jonah had been sent with a warning at the time of his adventure with the "great fish."

Mosul has undergone many vicissitudes since its capture by the Arabs in the seventh century. It achieved its greatest prosperity during the decline of the caliphate. Syrians and Seljuks held it successively during the tenth and eleventh centuries, after which came a final flare of splendor under the rulership of the remarkable general, Zengi. It was this amir who launched from Mosul the "jihad" or counter-crusade against the "infidel Christians" in Palestine.

UMI



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A SKETCH MAP OF ARABIA, SHOWING THE GEOGRAPHICAL RELATION OF THE NEW KINGDOM OF HEDJAZ TO SYRIA, MESOPOTAMIA, AND ARMENIA

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The Tomb of Confucius

THE "Man on the Street" in China rejoices at Japan's return of Tsingtao to his country, not because he loved Tsingtao so well, it was a German-built city anyway, but he was concerned that any alien people should get a foothold in Shantung, where Confucius lies buried, even though the tomb is many miles away from the much discussed Kiaochow district and Tsingtao city.

The burial place of the man who has dominated Chinese thought for 25 centuries is described, as it appeared a few years ago, in the following communication from Charles K. Edmunds to the National Geographic Society:

"This Confucian temple, an enormous and magnificent place, occupying with its grounds the whole of one side of the town of Küfu, is the model of the Confucian temples found in all the cities of China. It is almost certainly the growth of ages.

Contains Image of Sage

"Within the main building, called 'The Hall of Perfection,' sits the canopied-image of the great Sage, of which there are not more than two or three duplicates throughout the Empire. Ordinarily, Confucian temples do not contain an image of the Sage, but a simple tablet before which veneration and devotions are expressed.

"The statue is of wood, larger than life size, and represents the Sage seated, holding in his hands the imperial tablet or scepter as a symbol of his sovereignty in the realm of thought.

"He is clothed in nine different silk garments, on which the twelve imperial emblems are embroidered, namely, sun, moon, stars, mountains, dragons, pheasants, altar-vessels, water-lilies, flames of fire, rice, axes, and classic characters. While nine of these were used for great princes, as well as emperors, the first three were exclusively imperial insignia. Thus is denoted the high rank with which Confucius has long been honored.

Duke is Descendant of Confucius

"The temple grounds are separated from the rest of the town by the street that marks the site of the ancient village in which Confucius was born, the actual site of the house itself being marked by the Duke's Palace, for there is still a duke in Lu, the seventy-seventh lineal descendant of the Sage.

"Besides the contributions from devotees and appropriations from Peking, estates of many acres are devoted to the support of the temple and the supply of the great number of pigs, sheep, and cattle required for the sacrifices, for no symbolism of cheap paper images as substitutes for the real article, so common elsewhere in China, is allowed here.

"The Duke is also in charge of the up-keep of the great Confucian cemetery, which lies outside the city, to reach which one goes from the north gate of the city for about a mile along a wide avenue lined with cypress trees.

UMI

This crusade resulted eventually in the overthrow of the Western knights of the Cross who had redeemed the Holy Sepulchre from Moslem hands and had set up a kingdom in Jerusalem.

Saladin Exacted Homage From City

The final accomplishment of the Mosul amir's crusade fell to the lot of the justly renowned Saladin, son of one of Zengi's generals and a Mohammedan ruler of many exceptional virtues. After the death of Zengi's heir Saladin laid unsuccessful siege to Mosul in an effort to bring all Syria under his dominion. In 1187 he succeeded in exacting homage from the city.

For a short time during the 17th century Mosul was occupied by the Persians, but it was soon restored and remained subject to the Ottoman empire until Great Britain was entrusted with the mandate over Mesopotamia.

Photograph from Frederick Simpich. *© National Geographic Society*

A THRONG OF PILGRIMS ON THE DESERT OUTSIDE OF BAGDAD PREPARING TO JOIN THE CARAVAN OF PILGRIMS FOR KERBELA AND NEDJEF

Before man came the land was waste. When he had learned to bridle its rivers and to develop its capabilities, it became "as the garden of the Lord." Now that he has lost the grip of his first inheritance, it has gone back to waste again. Yet there can be doubt that here is a country of almost infinite possibilities.

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Macao: The Naples of Cathay

AN AMSTERDAM company has just begun harbor improvements at Macao, Portugal's famous port in South China, which long has been a romance spot of the Orient.

The corporate name of this Monte Carlo of the East is, "Cidade da Nome de Deos, Nao Ha Outre Mais Leal." It means, "City of the Name of God, Most Loyal of the Colonies."

From all the controversies raging around the baker's dozen foreign holdings on China's coast modest Macao remained immune until the Canton government endeavored, a year ago, to "clean-up" this first European conquest in China, perhaps with the added political motive of thereby insuring Portuguese recognition of the Sun Yat-sen regime.

Where Portuguese Chaucer Wrote

Not only is Macao the site of the first European claim staked out on Cathay's coast, but it has cultural ties with Europe closer knit than the political relationships of controverted areas to the north. It contains the oldest ruin in China that is associated with Europe, and the tamarind and banyan shade the gardens where the Portugese Chaucer, Camoens, composed half of The Lusiads, one of the half dozen of the world's great epics.

Inevitably, too, one associates the location of Macao, on a scant three mile peninsula jutting from an island in the delta of the Canton River below Hongkong, with that colony of Portuguese Americans on the very tip of Cape Cod, made famous by Joseph Lincoln. In Macao, as in Provincetown and at Goa, on the west Coast of India, it seems as if the Portuguese had left the very edge of Europe and all but missed landing on the headlands of other continents. But if history did not record the lasting debt that Europe owes to Portugal for reaching out to every quarter of the globe, Camoens, here at Macao, would have left in his immortal epic a noble monument to Vasco da Gama and other heroes of Lusitanian caravels.

Summer Resort For Canton

Once in Macao the traveler may remain to contemplate an out-of-the-way shrine of European history. But that is not why most folk board the daily boat from Hongkong to go there. It is a summer resort for the Cantonese because of its exposure to the cooling monsoons in mid-summer. Opium smugglers and gamblers, in recent years, have loomed large among its transients. Formerly the Chinese coolie traffic also had a headquarters here. Within a century its waters may have warranted the characterization of "the most dangerous waters of the world from a police standpoint," constituting "a river trip spiced with the risk of piratical attack."

Latter-day Macao was not marred for the casual traveller by either its flair for fan-tan or its opulent opium industry. Opium was shipped away to wreak

Tens of Thousands of Graves

"The portal to Sheng-ling, built in its present form in 1755 by the seventy-first lineal descendant of Confucius, gives access to a park-like enclosure of over 500 acres, containing the sepulcher of the Sage and of all his descendants. The total is undoubtedly several tens of thousands of graves. When a family holds together for 2,500 years, it grows into a big concern—about 70 per cent of the population in these parts, even the soldiers sent as escorts, claiming membership in the clan. The park is cared for by 200 attendants, whose families have inherited this duty for many hundreds of years.

"From the outer entrance of the 'Grove of the True Sage' an avenue of fine and ancient cypresses, about 150 on a side, leads to an inner inclosure, where are halls for worship and monuments of imperial visits from the Sung Dynasty down.

Monuments Mellowed by Age

"As one passes inward the monuments become more and more ancient. The aspects of the park are rather those of age than of neglect. Presently one comes to 'The Holy Way,' closed in by walls like 'The Emperor's Way' from one palace building to another, thus denoting the imperial ranking of the Sage.

"Finally, in very nearly the center of the whole inclosure, the visitor comes to two hillocks that cover the remains of Confucius and his son. In front of each is a simple stone altar and an inscribed pillar, the one before that of the Sage himself reading 'Most Holy Ancient Teacher.'

"It is said that the earth forming the mound covering the body of Confucious has been brought from each of the eighteen provinces of the Empire. However that may be, it is certainly true that the influence of the Sage has been and still is felt throughout the whole extent of the great country; and the prophet himself, while in these latter radical days somewhat dusty, still bears on his shoulders the vast commonwealth of China, whose moral basis, with all its deficiencies, is surely a great memorial to a great and wonderful man."

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Beirut, A City of Beautiful Sunsets

REPORTS that a group of Armenian Boy Scouts have uncovered the foundations of an ancient temple of Adonis will fascinate classic scholars and school students as well. The setting of this promising discovery was the environs of Beirut, Syria.

Picture, nestling at the base of the Lebanon, a many tinted city pushed out into the setting sun by the pressure of a famous mountain range. Just east of the city, and robbing it of the early morning light, this range towers to 8,500 feet in a beautiful mountain whose snowy heights form the crystal screen upon which is projected the rose glow of the world's most colorful sunsets.

Near Ports of Tyre and Sidon

The backbone of the city stretches to the west from a low alluvial plain which almost makes Beirut an island. The wharves are to the north, looking away from the more famous but inferior ports of Tyre and Sidon to the south and toward the other Phoenician ports of Tripoli and Alexandretta and Seleucia, all of which have old Phoenician names long since forgotten by the inhabitants. Berytus was the name of Beirut.

The waterfront is commonplace enough most of the year, even though just outside the disfiguring breakwater there lies the bluest, most nearly perfect curve of bay east of Naples. It bears the name of St. George and although it is the French that have improved it, the British have made it notable on their beautiful gold coins, now exinct, which once showed St. George killing a dragon or rather THE dragon.

Boot-Blacks Hover About Park

The streets are narrow and full of life. The buildings are kalsomined in various hues, ugly near at hand, but truly Turneresque from a distance. On one of the highest points at the eastern end of the high rib which the city straddles there is, or was, a military barracks. Beirut has tram lines which run along the backbone, and near the center of the city there is a small park embroidered with boot-blacks with small shoe-blacking boxes, around which the trams turn. Here there is another line of trams which runs to the south to a beautiful grove of pines which were planted to save the city from the drifting sands.

The western end of the limestone ridge is called Ras Beirut, or the point of Beirut, and near the extremity of this section there is one of the loveliest college campuses on earth, with more than a score of principal buildings. Possibly nowhere else on earth has America's name been more revered and so lovely is the scene of the deep blue bay and the snowy mountain range that there has long been a standing argument between this college and the Robert College, at Roumeli Hissar, outside Constantinople on the Bosphorus, as to which has the lovelier view.

its havoc; the former brought the bizarre and the adventurous. From an airplane the mile-wide tongue of land between the two rocky hills that mark its boundaries is splotched with brilliant colors, radiating from the tile roofs of its blue, green, red, and yellow houses.

Puddings Made of Ducks' Blood

He who lands on a steamer is captivated by its blend of Portuguese and Chinese people, by pagoda and western church, and when the summons of hunger leads him to a hotel that has been called the cleanest and most beautifully situated in the Orient, the contrast persists. He may order the famous Portuguese Colares with his yellow water chestnut pasties, and choose either ultra-occidental game dinners or pudding of coagulated duck's blood and sugar-preserved bamboo shoots. There are but 4,000 Portuguese resident there, but they represent a four century impress their nationality has made upon the total population of about 75,000.

After dinner the visitor may stroll along the Praya Grande, both the Broadway and the Riverside Drive of Macao. Having shopped and slummed, he finally will be led to catch the deeper romance of the city in the grotto where other poets have carved lines of praise to the one-eyed soldier poet who wrote the glory of farthest west Europe on an island of nearly farthest east China, and among many adventures beside, was shipwrecked on his way to Lisbon and swam ashore clutching some five or six cantos of his poem.

Bulletin No. 3, January 22, 1923.

Note to Teachers

References to articles and pictures in The National Geographic Magazine concerning subjects treated in this Bulletin are given because many teachers wish to employ them for further study or for project and problem assignments. The following is only a partial bibliography extracted from "The Cumulative Index of The National Geographic Magazine" (1899-1922, inclusive). A limited supply of some numbers may be ordered from the Society's offices at the prices named. Those numbers marked with an asterisk (*) are out of print. Bound volumes of The Geographic may be consulted in any public library and in school libraries.

Mesopotamia: The Cradle of Civilization, The Historic Lands Along the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers where Briton is Fighting Turk. By James Baikie. Vol. XXIX, pp. 127-162, 25 ills., Feb., 1916. 50c.

Where Adam and Eve Lived. By Frederick and Margaret Simpich. Vol. XXVI, pp. 546-588, 35 ills., Dec., 1914. 50c.

Shantung—China's Holy Land. By Charles K. Edmunds. Vol. XXXVI, pp. 231-252, 21 ills., 1 half-page map, Sept., 1919. 50c.

The Descendants of Confucius (Industries). By Maynard Owen Williams. Vol. XXXVI, pp. 253-265, 16 ills., Sept., 1919. 50c.

Syria: The Land Link of History's Chain. By Maynard Owen Williams. Vol. XXXVI, pp. 437-465, 20 ills., 1 page map, Nov., 1919. 50c.

Oceanography: Deep-Sea Exploring Expedition of the Steamer Albatross. By Hugh M. Smith. Vol. X, pp. 291-296, 2 ills., 1 diagram, Aug., 1899. $1.50.

A Land of Eternal Warring (Labrador). By Sir Wilfrid T. Grenfell. Vol. XXI, pp. 665-690, 24 ills., Aug., 1910. 75c.

The Atlantic Seaboard: A Battle-Ground of Nature. By John Oliver La Gorce. Vol. XXXIII, pp. 511-546, 23 ills., 4 half-page maps, June, 1918. 50c.

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The Unknown Sea Bottom

EXPLORERS and geographers who have been sighing for new lands to conquer may find their best field of endeavor, paradoxically, in the sea.

Now that the United States Navy has perfected a device for measuring the depths of water by sound waves without going through the tedious process of lowering sounding lines it should be possible to add greatly to the relatively little we know about the under-water portion of the earth.

Oceanic Knowledge Comparatively Meager

When it is realized that nearly three-fourths of the surface of the globe consists of water it is rather remarkable how little we know of the vast surface of the solid sphere which lies under this screen of liquid.

The greater portions of our continents are mapped even to the smallest details and our harbors and the shallow waters closely off shore are fairly well charted. Once the edges of the continental shelves are passed the features of the sea bottom are represented only by a few somewhat vague contour lines laid down between rather infrequent points of soundings.

Not Sure of Greatest Depth

We know without doubt that the highest point on the earth is the peak of Mt. Everest, which extends above sea-level for 29,002 feet—or 38 feet less than 5½ miles. On the other hand we can only speak of the deepest abyss "yet discovered," for one great pit, hidden in the depths of the ocean, has scarcely established its title to first place in recent years when it has been surpassed by a deeper one; and it can hardly be believed that the deepest of all has yet been discovered.

School children were taught a few years ago that the deepest depression in the earth's surface was near the Fiji Islands and that it was 30,133 feet deep. Since then "the deepest hole on earth" has been successively Kermadec Deep, northeast of New Zealand, 30,930 feet; Nero Deep, southeast of Guam, 31,616 feet; and the present holder of the record, Philippine Deep, east of the Philippine Islands, 32,089 feet. This greatest known depth therefore lies six miles and 409 feet below the surface of the sea.

Like Scratch on Billiard Ball

The greatest range vertically of the earth's surface is between the bottom of Philippine Deep and the top of Mt. Everest, a distance of approximately 11.6 miles. This seems a tremendous distance until it is compared with the diameter of the earth which, near the latitudes of these great physical features, is approximately 8,000 miles. On a globe with a diameter of eight inches instead of 8,000 miles, this maximum range of depressions and heights would be represented by a scratch little more than a hundredth of an inch deep. The smallest division on a household ruler is one-sixteenth of an inch. The scratch would

Nature Provides Swimming Pools

In from the west and north sweep waves which are eating away at the limestone cliffs and each year the shore line recedes before the fierce battle with the waters upon which the Phoenician argosies set out in search of fame and commerce. At one place the dashing waves have cut entirely around two towering masses of rock and bored a huge hole through the side of one of them so that when the storms come Pigeon Rocks reveal a spirited picture of angry waves and steady stone. Narrow coves extend in from the sea and in these one finds some of the finest natural swimming pools anywhere, for the bottom is deep and the water clear and the sides rise gradually so that one can dive from varying heights from the water's edge to thirty feet.

These coves form the playground of the college students and each has its name. There is the Preparatory Cove for young students, the College Cove, and the Faculty Cove, where the young American teachers swim.

Cog Wheel Railway to Damascus

From the harbor there rises a cog wheel railway which connects the ancient city of Damascus to the seacoast. It was this French railway and the French harbor which gave Beirut its prominence as a port and few indeed are the Palestinian tourists who have not passed over this road while leaving the world's oldest city, a green oasis in the midst of the tawny desert, and the Cyclopean ruins of Baalbek, to return to the ship for home.

The mountains offer various summer resorts for the city of Beirut and the green masses of the foothills are not only dotted with pretty Lebanon villages from which thousands of Syrians have set out across the sea as did the Phoenicians from the same port, but to land in America instead of beside the chalk cliffs of Albion, where tin was obtained in ancient times.

Commuting in the Lebanon

The natives say that the Lebanon has summer in its lap, spring on its bosom, and winter on its head, and by moving up the slopes one can find the temperature desired. Rich Egyptians come this way in summer and there are gaming places on Lebanon that rival Monte Carlo. Recently the automobile has come to the Lebanon and up the winding roads there now climb motor cars of all shapes and sizes. There are many commuters in summer time and each night the tired business man leaves the hot coast and takes the business man's special to the cool retreat of Aleih or Suk-el-Charb.

North from Beirut there runs a famous road and at Dog River the cliffs are carved with the proud inscriptions of conquerors who have passed this way since history was holding a rattle.

People Mixed: Holidays Many

The population of Beirut is mixed and the holidays many. Some of the churches are wealthy though the mosques are generally small. Long famous for its learning, it is today a city of colleges and schools. One of the great institutions in Beirut is the American press, which publishes most of the Bibles and Gospels that are issued in Arabic. Its product reaches the whole of the world.

During the war whole sections of the city were razed to make way for new roads and thoroughfares and the center of the city is becoming less and less picturesque as the days go by. The seller of sweetmeats, carrying his swaying tray on his head and his rude tripod on his arm, no longer has to look up like a dying Gaul while balancing his load in the midst of buildings whose awnings and balconies strove to rob him of his livelihood.

"What your soul desires," he shouts as he tries to work up appetites to the buying point and the seller of cooling drinks with a great ball of Lebanon snow stuck above his highly colored bottle clink two brass bowls.

be less than a fifth of such a division in depth. On a billiard ball one could hardly scratch lightly enough with a pin to represent the great Philippine Deep, and a few grains of talcum powder would stand for Mt. Everest. The smoothest orange that grows has much greater irregularities on its skin in proportion to its size than those given to the earth by all its peaks and valleys.

One who studies the earth comes to realize that in a sense the continents are subordinate to the great ocean basins. The total volume of these depressions below sea-level is many times greater than the volume of the land that rises above the sea. If the entire land surface were leveled down an ocean nearly two miles deep would sweep over every square foot of the surface of the globe.

The condition of the continents might at first glance be considered precarious, but dry land has formed a considerable part of the surface of the earth for millions of years and will probably remain for a long time to come. It has been estimated that less than four cubic miles of solid material is carried into the sea by water annually. At this rate, leaving out of consideration upheavals and subsidences due to earthquakes and other causes, it would require more than 6,000,000 years for all the present land to be washed into the sea.

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ALL "SHIP-SHAPE" ON SOME CHINESE JUNKS

Thanks to the excellence of Chinese varnish, which resists hot and cold, fresh or salt water without discoloration, the Chinese houseboats or junks are models of cleanliness. From far Szechuan to the network of waterways around Shanghai, the Chinese houseboat is a floating credit to the by no means spotless town.